



**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
VOLUNTEER REPORT FORM
PERIOD JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012
Deadline: July 13, 2012**

1. DEPARTMENT/COURT INFORMATION:

Department/Court: Medical Examiner
Division/Unit: Admin/Exam Room/Histology/Investigations/Pathology/Toxicology

2. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM BENEFITS:

a. GENERAL VOLUNTEERS (this section should include community volunteer, student intern, groups, corporations, etc).

No. of Vol.	27	Hours	2,934	X	\$21.79	=	\$63,931.86
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Types of work performed by GENERAL VOLUNTEERS in this category:

Administration/Investigations: answer incoming phone calls and route appropriately; sending report request; filing and special projects.

Examination Room: assisting with doctors as needed; preparing cases; and general housekeeping.

Toxicology/Histology: general lab support to include checking in samples; washing glassware; and general housekeeping.

Pathology: researching cases and updating the case management system.

b. INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS (this section should include court referrals, honor camp inmates, PIC/RETC, GAIN, etc.)

No. of Vol.		Hours		X	\$21.79	=	\$0.00
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Types of work performed by INSTITUTIONAL VOLUNTEERS in this category:

c. SPECIALIZED VOLUNTEERS (this section should include utilization of Special Volunteers in positions requiring specific skills and/or expertise levels, for example, an attorney, physician, sports figure or celebrity). These specialized positions have verifiable compensation levels (VCL). If you have such a volunteer, please indicate the position, hours and compensation level

<u>Position</u>	<u>Hours</u>	X	<u>VCL</u>	=	<u>Dollar Benefit</u>
Chaplain	1,482		\$24.84		\$36,812.88
Epidemiologist	45		\$30.74		\$1,383.30
					\$0.00
					\$0.00
					\$0.00

No. of Vol.	3	Total Hours	1,527	Total Value =	\$38,196.18
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Types of work performed by SPECIALIZED VOLUNTEERS in this category:

Chaplains: provided peer support internally and at death scenes.

Epidemiologist: provides SIDS support and compiles statistical data.

d. TOTALS OF DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEERS (from above):

	<u>No. of Volunteers</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Dollar Benefit</u>
2a.	27	2,934	\$63,931.86
2b.			
2c.	3	1,527	\$38,196.18

Total Vol.	30	Hours	4,461	Total Value =	\$102,128.04
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3. DONATIONS TO VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

Please list all donations to the department's Volunteer program including monetary donations and tangible/intangible items. Items such as computers, air time, transportation, books, etc. Please assign a fair market value to each and add to the total value of the donations section.

Item Donated:	_____	Value:	_____
Item Donated:	_____	Value:	_____
Item Donated:	_____	Value:	_____
Item Donated:	_____	Value:	_____
Item Donated:	_____	Value:	_____

TOTAL VALUE =	\$0.00
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4. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COSTS:

a. Cost of supervision of volunteers (total hours of direct supervision multiplied by the hourly rate of staff person (s) directly supervising program volunteers.)

Hours	188	X	Rate	\$26.74	=	\$5,027.12
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b. Cost of program coordination (total hours of program coordination multiplied the hourly rate of coordinator(s)). This section should include coordination of staff, compiling statistics, job description preparation, volunteer placement, recognition, etc.)

Hours	48	X	Rate	\$30.33	=	\$1,455.84
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c. Other program costs (volunteer training materials/supplies, recognition costs, etc.):

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

TOTAL OF OTHER PROGRAM COSTS

=

\$0.00

d. TOTAL OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAM COST
(add 4a, 4b, and 4c)

=

\$6,482.96

5. NET BENEFIT TO DEPARTMENT FROM VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:

a. Total Dollar Benefits of Volunteers, Item 2d (Page 2)	<u>\$102,128.04</u>
b. Total of Donations to Volunteer Program, Item 3 (Page 2)	<u>\$0.00</u>
c. Subtract Total of Program Costs, Item 4d (Page 3)	<u>\$6,482.96</u>

TOTAL PROGRAM BENEFIT

\$95,645.08

6. RECRUITING:

Please describe your recruiting programs:

COSD website; Medical Examiner website and contact with local colleges. All volunteers recruited are from specialized fields that benefit our department.

7. SPECIAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMENTS:

Please describe any special activities and/or achievements your program was involved in during the period of this report:

Countywide annual recognition event included volunteer Chaplain Joe Davis.
Joe Davis' featured in the Christian Examiner - Vol 30, No. 7 (attached)

8. VOLUNTEER PROGRAM GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-13:

Please describe your program goals. Include activities, number of volunteers, recruitment, training, recognition and other goals:

Continue to build a volunteer workforce to supplement our staffing level and provide customer service to our next of kin.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of person completing report: Theresa Liget
Phone: (858) 694-3072 Mail Stop: O-10 E-Mail: Theresa.Liget@sdcounty
Volunteer Coordinator: Theresa Liget
Phone: (858) 694-3072 Mail Stop: O-10 E-Mail: Theresa.Liget@sdcounty

10. DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION:



DEPARTMENT HEAD SIGNATURE

July 9, 2012

DATE

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San Diego County Edition

Vol. 30, No. 7

July 2012

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Education
Christian home-education
association equips families

➔ page 2



Cal Thomas
The media's
religion deficit

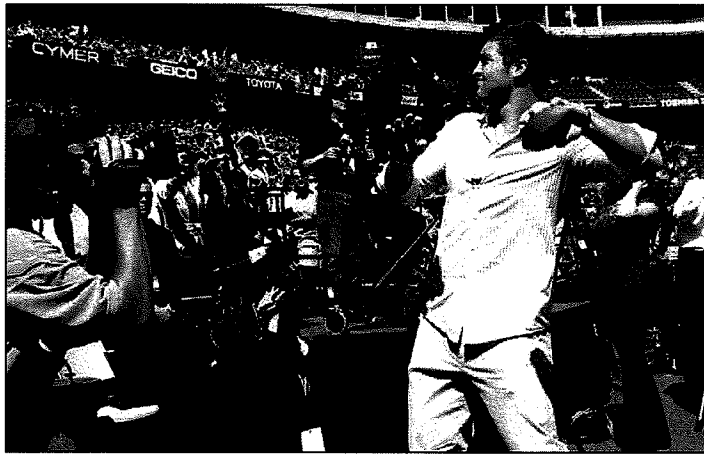
➔ page 5



Community
Promise Keepers
coming to San Diego

➔ page 11

FREE



NFL quarterback Tim Tebow throws a toy football into the stands before taking the stage to talk about faith, football and fatherhood during a Father's Day church service at Qualcomm Stadium sponsored by Shadow Mountain Community Church.

Gridiron Glory

Tebow draws thousands to the Q for Sunday church service

SAN DIEGO — Tim Tebow drew a crowd of more than 26,000 people to hear him speak about his faith and father-son relationships at a June 17 Father's Day event.

Tebow was speaking at San Diego's Qualcomm Stadium where last fall he led the Denver Broncos, his former team, to an overtime win against the San Diego Chargers. As he spoke, a plane flew above the stadium pulling a banner that read, "Happy Father's Day—John 3:16."

"Tebow encouraged fathers to set an example in their homes and inspire their families. He stressed the need for role models and spoke how his dad was his example."

"For me it was about watching my dad. He could say whatever he wanted, but I watched him," Tebow, the youngest of five children, said.



Kids and adults alike donned eye-black tattoos sporting the John 3:16 scripture verse, a practice made famous by Tebow while playing college football at the University of Florida.



On the stage Tebow was flanked by Shadow Mountain Community Church pastor David Jeremiah, right, and recording artist Charles Billingsley, left.

"How he acted, how he was, how he treated my mom, how he treated my four siblings."

"And that's how I learned the most from my dad. Because it wasn't about what he said, it was about what he did in front of me and my siblings my whole life."

Tebow referenced how his father used the life of Jesus as an example to teach him about love, passion and sacrifice.

David Jeremiah, pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, asked the quarterback, now with the New York Jets, what he thought of the notion that, "If you are a Christian and you are a man, you can't really be a man." Tebow replied, saying he started believing in Jesus while he was a young boy and was competitive from an early age. He recalled how he was disappointed when, at just 4 years of age, a coach told him winning wasn't everything. He told his dad, "But I want to win."

Tebow said that winning isn't always about having the most talent. "Hard work will beat talent, when talent doesn't work hard," the former Heisman Trophy winner said.

Tebow told the crowd to "get in the game" by being active Christians. "I encourage you men to get in the game and finish strong, finish strong for your family, your wife and your sons and daughters," he said.

He said that while the world looks at him as a football player who's a Christian, "I look at the world and say, 'I'm a Christian who happens to play football.'"

Shadow Mountain Community Church hosted the free Sunday morning event called "Father's Day 2012: Encouraging Men to Live, Love and Lead."

Besides pastoring a megachurch, Jeremiah hosts a Bible teaching program on Turning Point, heard on more than 2000 radio stations around the world.

Medical Examiner volunteer chaplain offers comfort for the grief stricken

By Lori Arnold

SAN DIEGO — Joe Davis walked up a stranger's driveway just as he had hundreds of times before. As he closed the gap between the curb and the front porch he noticed a pair of toddler shoes and two others, each a little larger.

"I'm thinking, Oh my gosh, this guy's got three little kids and I'm going to walk up there and I'm going to turn this family upside down forever," Davis said. "This is going to be a day that this family will never, ever forget."

As chaplain for the San Diego County Medical Examiner's office, death notifications may have become second nature, but no less personal.

"I can see my tie bouncing off of my chest," he said. "Then you see little momma preparing lunch for her three kids, and she's as happy as she can be. I can see her in the bay window, and then she sees me walking up the driveway wearing a badge."

More than a decade ago Davis accompanied a forensic investiga-

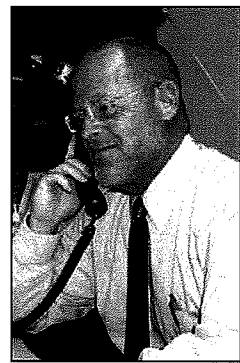


PHOTO BY LORI ARNOLD

Chaplain Joe Davis established the all-volunteer Bereavement Center as an outreach to the community. His goal is to follow up with each of the 3,000 or so local cases handled by the Medical Examiner's office.

tor to Santana High School, where earlier in the day an armed student killed two peers and injured 13

Seen CHAPLAIN, page 8

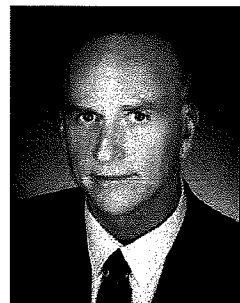
Living proof

Former gay challenges proposal to ban reparative therapy for minors

By Lori Arnold

GLENDALE — David Pickup has spent the greater part of the past 15 years either being treated with reparative techniques to diminish his own gay attractions or establishing a successful therapy practice to help others enjoy the same freedom that "saved his life."

"It helped to dissipate my depression and the anxiety," the Glendale therapist said. "My self-esteem rose. My gender identity and inferiority—which was traumatic for me as a child—was greatly resolved, so my male self-esteem really rose. My shame for having, simply feeling homosexual feelings doesn't exist any more. I had quite a wonderful



David Pickup, an ex-gay who uses reparative therapy in his private practice, is hoping to derail a state law that would prohibit such treatment for minors. Pickup said the treatment saved his life.

See SB 1172, page 6

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CHAPLAIN...*Continued from page 1*

others. By the time they arrived at the East County campus that afternoon, they had already monitored live television news coverage and had visited a local hospital where one of the victims died.

"To actually walk into the scene after seeing and hearing the stories all day long and have it become that much of a reality it was really, really something," he said, drawing a deep breath. "There were backpacks all over the place, and the kids literally ran out of their shoes to get away. You can literally see the horror and the panic."

While the shoes tell a story, so do the souls.

Davis has specialized in the souls for the past dozen years as he has volunteered his time to help the Medical Examiner's staff and victims' families walk through the process of grief brought on by sudden, traumatic and unexpected death.

"I get to be in a position where in the most hopeless of circumstances, potentially, you can infuse just a little bit of hope," the chaplain said.

"I'm not here to judge people, I'm here to help people. You talk about a key position that God can place somebody in in order to minister his grace. He says in Psalms that 'I am an ever-present help in times of trouble.' There is no more troubling time in your life than losing somebody you love. There's been times when He's allowed a goofball like me to get in there and help these families in a really, really, really cool, cool way."

Initially brought on to help the staff process the stress from the dark nature of their jobs, Davis' skills have since evolved, broadening the focus of the chaplain's office into a Bereavement Center that offers a wide range of services for the 3,000 or so families served by the department each year. Davis said his goal is to do follow-up contacts with every single local family served by the Medical Examiner's office.

"I had been praying for four years, 'Lord, what do you want me to do?'" said Davis, who had been doing pastoral counseling with a Calvary Chapel church. "As soon as I heard the words (that) the Medical Examiner was considering



PHOTO BY LORI ARNOLD

Dozens of donate stuffed animals line the shelves in Chaplain Joe Davis' office at the San Diego County Medical Examiner. Providing the animals to children is just one of the services provided by the department's Bereavement Center, which is operated by Davis.

a chaplaincy program I knew that I knew that I knew that that was it. That it was mine. That was it; it was so me."

Davis can't really explain why he was drawn to such a dark job, but as he looks back over his life, he clearly sees God's handprints all over the journey.

Critical, holistic care

The San Diego Medical Examiner's office is the only volunteer-led center of its kind in the United States, and in 2009 it was presented with the National Association of Counties Achievement Award. Chaplain programs in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New Mexico do offer extended services, but they are publicly funded and have trimmed their support because of budget shortfalls, Davis said. In addition, most only offer assistance to victims of homicide.

"It doesn't cost the county a penny," Davis said of his program. "It's the best service that can possibly be

provided and, in fact, the only program in the world that has spiritual care."

In addition to assisting with point-of-impact duties such as death notifications, returning property—wedding rings, keys, wallets—of the decedent to the their families and helping staff with various tasks within the department, the center has generated a storehouse of resources and networks that can provide free counseling in conjunction with San Diego Hospice and the Institute for Palliative Medicine and *pro bono* cremation services for low-income families. Davis has also created a network of pastors who volunteer to assist families with funeral arrangements and offer guidance through their recovery. He has referred parents to Umbrella Ministries, a support group for moms who have lost a child.

To help families understand the enormity of it all, Davis and his non-profit Dunamai ministry have developed a 28-page secular booklet

called "Helping You Get Through." *Dunamai* is Greek for strength and is used in 1 Corinthians 13.

Even children have a place in Davis' Kearny Mesa office, where he keeps a zoo of stuffed animals for children to play with and adopt while he and adult survivors discuss the life-altering aftermath of sudden—and often violent—death.

"It's anything that we can do or I can do to make the circumstances not quite so painful," he said. "I can't change what happened. I can't fix it, but I can certainly stop it from being worse."

Financial burdens

The services offered through the Bereavement Center were developed out of the residue of tears from survivors who were suddenly faced with unexpected decisions and expenses. Davis said he often carried the weight of hearing story upon story of family members wondering aloud how they were going to pay for a burial when they didn't have enough money for rent or food. More often than not, they were turning to credit cards so they could pay a mortician to retrieve their loved one's remains for burial or cremation.

"I know they are going to be hammered with the debt on that for the rest of their life," he said. "They don't have any money."

So Davis, a resident of Santee, contacted a friend at a local mortuary who pledged to do cremation services at cost for referrals through the bereavement center. After determining need, Davis sends the family member to the mortuary to take care of the paperwork, and Dunamai sends in a check to cover expenses. To date, more than 175

See **NO MONEY**, next page

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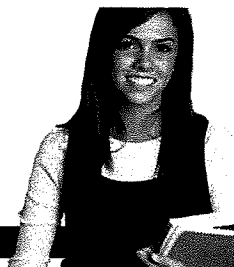
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NO MONEY...

Continued from last page

people have benefited from the program.

"Can you imagine? You are already devastated, you've already experienced this horrible loss," he said. "You don't even know what you are going to do, and some guy comes and says 'You know, God promises to be an ever-present help in times of trouble and I'm going to show you what He means by that. I think I can help you. If you are willing, this is what I'd like to do.' And invariably the answer comes back, 'Why would you do that, you don't even know me?'"

Tackling his own stress

Personal burnout also played a role in the development of the Bereavement Center's resources after Davis admitted that the demands of his beloved volunteer post were manifesting themselves by way of hypertension and a stomach disorder.

"I'm experiencing the stress that I'm trying to help others not experience," Davis said, adding that he responded to his own health issues by getting on his knees and asking the Lord that if he was called to the ministry, then why was it so difficult.

"It was the clearest answer I've ever gotten," he said. "It was, 'If you are going to get that involved, then you are no good to them and you are no good to me.' That just revolutionized what we do. I realized that I can't do it all. I've got to be able to develop some resources that will help these families that I can't get to."

Instantly, he was able to release some personal pressure.

"It was like, 'yeah, you're right. That's not my problem. I can't deal with this. I can't take this home and I can't pollute my wife. I can't carry this burden. It's not my luggage to carry.'"

Darkness and light

In recent years, as the stress of the economy has pressed down on every class of people, the suicide rate has increased steadily after a period of stability. Many of those acts are done in public areas, and others have taken the form of murder suicide. According to the Medical Examiner's records, the suicide rate in San Diego County ranged from 312

to 320 per year for the first eight years that Davis ministered through the department. Three years ago it climbed to 355, the following year was 377 and last year it hovered around 400. This year, the office handled 99 documented cases between January and March, up from 77 in the previous time period. The number will increase, the director said, after cases that are pending for toxicology reports, are officially documented as suicides.

The incidents of violent death, Davis said, reflect an increasingly troubled time for the region and America as a whole.

"The days are evil and they are getting more evil," he said. "The things that people do to each other and to themselves are, in my opinion, dramatically increasing in darkness."

"For me, as a Christian, the bottom line is there's not a whole lot of hope out there. If you don't know Christ, you are in trouble anyway, but how big does that expand when you go through circumstances like having to go to the medical examiner's office on top of that."

In the midst of all the heaviness, though, Davis said there are many moments of muted light.

"You will never see a clearer definition of a person of faith than when you are in circumstances like this," the chaplain said. "Those people who have faith, yes, they are grieving, yes, they are upset, but they are grieving with a hope instead of absolutely no hope, and I've seen them both—believe me—over 12 years."

Over those years, Davis said there have only been subtle changes to his faith.

"I think I take God way more seriously now than I used to," he said. "I've seen so many things that don't make sense, that never ever, ever will make sense. When we meet I'm going to have a whole bunch of questions."

"But that doesn't mean I don't trust Him. I know He knows what's best. I know He's on the throne. I know He's in complete total, absolute control, of not only my life but everybody else's. I know He allows things in our life for specific purposes. I don't know what those purposes are. I don't need to know. I need to trust."

For more information on the ministry visit www.dunamai.net.

Chaplain Davis: In his own words

In an extensive interview with San Diego County Medical Examiner Chaplain Joe Davis, the ordained minister discussed a variety of issues facing his office. Below are a few quotes on what he had to say:

The program's legality:

Davis frequently gets questions on how a county-operated department can have a chaplaincy program.

"There's a provision in the law that says that a government setting can have a chaplain as long as the purpose is secular," he said. "I know it sounds like a contradiction, but my purpose for being here is to help staff through the stress and things they go through on an everyday basis. That is a secular purpose."

In addition, taxpayer money is not used to operate the center since Davis volunteers his time, and all of his expenses, except mileage, are covered by his Dunamai non-profit.

On his training:

Davis said he prayed for four years that he didn't want to become a "cookie-cutter" pastor, asking the Lord, "Do something where you can use me, not where I have to fit into this box to do it."

At the urging of his mentor Mickey Stonier, then a pastor at Horizon Christian Fellowship, he began taking classes on counseling and trauma, laying the groundwork for his ministry. Today he is a certified trauma services specialist. Even that, he said, can't fully prepare you for the work.

"A Master's of Divinity, as valuable as that is, ain't gonna get me a cup of coffee at Starbucks," he said. "If I'm knocking on your door telling you your husband died today do you

give a rip whether I have a Master's of Divinity or do you want to know that I am able to help you through the process?"

The work environment:

"I don't really see it as darkness. I do truly see it as an opportunity. I just can't get that emotionally attached to it. I can't carry the burden. I gotta just do what I can and let it go."

The investigators:

One of Davis' top priorities is being a resource for investigators, who cover 4,400-square miles of territory with a current staff of 16 investigators, which is five short of what's needed. Whenever possible he accompanies them to a scene and will help with death notifications. Davis said he believes every stressful element of their job that he can shield them from can prolong their careers.

"You go from a SIDS case and you've got a 2-year-old baby at home, and then you've got to go to a motor vehicle accident where a 14-year-old kid was killed, and then you've got to go here, and then you've got to go there," he said of the investigators. "Every single one of these you have to knock on somebody's door and tell them their son or daughter or dad died."

Even the burial assistance fund was established with a mind toward the Medical Examiner staff, which often carries the emotional millstone of families without resources to care for their loved one a final time.

"They are going to walk away from me, and they are going to know they can let it go because they know I'm going to do what I say I'm going to do," he said of the burial provisions.

Ministering to people of other or no faith background:

Because of the secular nature of the position, Davis said he identifies himself as a chaplain and then lets their response dictate how he serves them. Those who are of a different faith are directed to other faith leaders, many of whom he knows through the Sheriff Department's chaplaincy program which serves most faith groups.

"This is not the time to talk to them about the Lord," he said. "I can answer questions, but that's not my purpose. My purpose is to help them any way I can, and they get to define that."


The question of 'Why?'

"I don't have to answer for God," he said. "He's big enough to answer for himself, but I can say I don't know. There is a whole bunch I don't know, but what I do know is that He is trustworthy, and that's what I bank on."

On personal lifestyles:

During the course of his work, Davis is exposed to many situations that are contrary to biblical teachings. They can be deaths brought on by drug use. Relationships can be sordid.

"To me when you are dealing with somebody who is dealing with death, it's almost a holy moment where that's not the time to misrepresent God," Davis said. "That's not the time to judge. That's the not the time to be critical. That's the time to hold them up as best you can."



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